

*A Copy of the English Merchants Petition
to King James*

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

*The Humble Petition of several English
Merchants of the City of London;*

Showeth,

(N. 5.) **T**HAT in January, 1684, Sir Peter Vanderput and a few others, having Petitioned Your Majesty for the Remission of the Aliens Duty Outwards, upon hearing the Commissioners of the Customs, Your Majesty was pleased to declare Your Pleasure in favour of the Petitioners, and to remit the Aliens Duty for all Goods Exported of the Native Production and Manufacture of this Kingdom, until Your Majesty should find Cause to alter Your Royal Pleasure therein.

And Your Petitioners being informed, That some Persons are attempting to get the Aliens Duty Inwards remitted also, in all Humility, do represent to Your Majesty, That the Remission thereof, either Inwards or Outwards, is a Publick Damage to the Interest of Your Majesty's Kingdoms, and Diminutions of Your Revenue, and the Trade of Your English Merchants, and a means to transpire what, and the Mysteries of our Artifices into the Hands of Foreigners, to the Ruine, not only of the Trading and Working People at home, but also of the several English Factories Abroad.

Your Petitioners therefore, most humbly beseech Your Majesty, to order, that they may be heard, to demonstrate to Your Majesty the Consequence of such Remission.

And Your Petitioners (as in Duty Bound)
Shall ever humbly Pray,

Subscribed by

Sir Matthew Andrews
Sir Benjamin Newland
Sir Thomas Griffith
Sir John Chapman
Sir Henry Tulse
Sir Robert Jeffery
Sir Samuel Daffinwood
Sir Benjamin Ayliffe
John Wade
Sir John Moor
Jacob Lucy
Ralph Hardwick
Robert Master
Thomas Dale
Adam Bellamy
James Kedge
Francis Kemp
Thomas Duche
William Wrayford
Sir John Eyles
Bartholomew Gracedieu
Benjamin Dennis
Charles Thorold
William Cowper
Richard Haste
James Wayte
Samuel Nash
Roger Williams
Bedingfield Higham
Gregory Westcombe
William Barnes
John Croft
Daniel Allen

Rainsford Waterhouse
John Harvey
Samuel Lock
John Jackson
James Wallis
John Kent
Humphry Morris
Francis Rainsford
Henry Hunter
Hugh Srode
Francis Eyles
Francis Baynton
Richard Rives
Nathaniel Mazy
Joseph Martin
Matthew Vincent
Matthew Gramham
John Flavell
Thomas Eames
Thomas Braytesford
Thomas Morgan
Abraham Anselme
John Blackwell
Mark Proudfoot
Anthony Wallinger
Abraham Beak
Walter VVatkin
Samuel Allen
Isaac Crabb
Thomas Hunt
VWilliam Gore
Phillip VVheas

The *Hamburg Company*, the *Eastland Company*, a great many Merchants of the *West of England*, and of the *North of England*, presented the like Petitions apart, which shew the generality of the English Merchants Opinion.

No 2676. 394
*A Copy of an Order of King William in
Council, for Collecting the Alien Duty
Outwards, notwithstanding King James's
Order to the Contrary.*

*At the Court at Hampton Court 14th. of
October 1689.*

Present,

*The King's Most Excellent Majesty in
Council.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of their Majesties Treasury, having this Day laid before His Majesty in Council, a Presentment of the Commissioners of the Customs; setting forth, That by an Act of Parliament made in the 25th. Year of the Reign of His Majesty King Charles II. the Aliens Duty was taken off upon the Exportation of all the Native Commodities of this Kingdom, except Coals: And by an Act of Parliament made in the First Year of his late Majesty King James II. by which the Revenue was granted to his said Majesty King James, in the same Condition that it had been granted to King Charles II. in the 12th. Year of his Reign; the said former Act for taking off the Alien Duty was, in the Opinion of Council learned in the Laws, rescinded, or repealed, and the Alien Duty became again payable upon the Native Commodities of this Kingdom, Exported by Strangers, until by an Order in Council of his late Majesty King James, bearing Date the 22d. of January 1684. upon the Petition of divers Merchants of the City of London: And hearing the then Commissioners of the Customs, His Majesty was pleased to declare, That he would take or receive no other Custom of Merchant Strangers, for Goods Exported of the Native Product or Manufacture of this Kingdom, than what were payable to his said Majesty King Charles, at the Time of his Demise, by Virtue of the said first mentioned Statute, made in the 25th. Year of his Reign, And by an Act made this present Session of Parliament, the Revenue is made payable to their Majesties, in the same had Continuance upon the 5th. Day of November last, by which the said Alien Duty seems again to be revived. And therefore humbly praying the Directions of this Board therein. — It was, upon due Consideration thereof, this Day Ordered in Council by his Majesty, That the said Lords Commissioners of the Treasury do forthwith give Directions to the Commissioners and other the Officers of their Majesties Customs whom it may Concern, for Levying and Collecting all such Duties, as by Law are payable, for the Goods of the Native Product or Manufacture of this Kingdom, that shall be Exported by Strangers, notwithstanding the said Order of the 22d. of January 1684, or by any other Direction to the contrary.

A true Copy.

*A Copy of the Merchants Address of Thanks
to King William, for his Order in
Council, for Payment of Alien Duty
Outwards.*

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

*The Humble Address of divers English Mer-
chants in and about the City of London.*

AS God Almighty by his Providence, hath preserved Your Royal Majesty in a Glorious Undertaking, of rescuing our Religion, Laws, Liberties and Properties, which were on the brink of Destruction, and saved your Sacred Majesty's on the Royal Throne; so we in particular manner, cannot but with all Gratitude acknowledge your Majesty's Great Wisdom and Goodness, in Restoring

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Jacob Lucy
Ralph Hardwick
Robert Maiter
Thomas Dale
Adam Bellamy
James Ridge
Francis Kemp
Thomas Dache
William Wrayford
Sir John Byler
Bartholomew Gracedieu
Benjamin Demm
Charles Thorold
William Cooper
Richard Hayte
James Wraye
Samuel Nash
Roger Williams
Bedingfield Algham
Gregory Westcombe
William Barnes
John Croft
Daniel Allen

Rainsford Waterhouse
John Harvey
Samuel Lock
John Jackson
James Wallis
John Kent
Humphry Morris
Francis Rainsford
Henry Hunter
Hugh Stride
Francis Eyles
Francis Baynton
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Matthew Vincent
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in your Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, our Ancient Rights and Privileges, by your Majesty's Gracious Order Council, dated the 14th. of October last, ordering the King and Collecting all such Duties, as are payable for Goods of the Native Product and Manufacture of this Kingdom, that shall be Exported by Strangers, notwithstanding the Order in Council of the late King James, of the 22d. of January 1685, or any other Direction to the contrary.

For us leave therefore, Dread Sovereign, humbly to request to your Sacred Majesty, That the Alien Duty, both inward and outward, was long since erected to Secure the Trade of this Nation to the English Merchants (whose Interest and Aim it is to advance the same) as the Act of Navigation was to Encourage and Increase our English Shipping, which we humbly conceive must needs be lost, if not equally maintained. And by that Means your Majesty will not only preserve both those Great Corner-stones of the Nation, but also receive an Ancient Revenue belonging to the Crown, and oblige us, and all your English Merchants in this Kingdom, to Trade upon equal Terms with Aliens, and raise again our Factories abroad into their former Reputation, which otherwise we cannot do.

That the Great God of Heaven, by whom Kings Reign, and Princes Decease, Justice, may always Conduct Your Majesty in this World, and afterwards receive You into His Everlasting Mansions in the World to come, is, and shall be the cordial and constant devout Prayers of

Your Majesty's most Loyal, Dutiful, Thankful, and most Obedient Subjects and Servants.

Subscribed by

Sir Thomas Pilkington,
Sir John Mase,
Sir William Pittchard
Sir Robert Jeffery
Sir Samuel Darnwood
Sir William Goffin
Sir John Fleet
Sir Benjamin Newland
Sir John E. Lee
Sir Thomas Lane
Sir Christopher Lechster
Sir John Hobson
Sir William Cranmer
Sir William Hall
Sir William Knollys
Nath. Gould
John Milford
Abraham Ralph
Francis Branton
Jeremiah Wright
Lew. Knight
George Sitwell
William Fawcener
Henry Mansfield
Ranulph Manning
John Manning
Benjamin Wittcomb
Thomas Tite
Nath. Blackwell
Benjamin Godfrey
Edward Haxby
J. Williamson
Samuel Nash
Thomas Clark
John Smith
William Benjan
William Master
Simon Smith
Humphrey Livermore
John Lloyd
Thomas Shiff
John Bloodworth
Henry Wood

George Marwood
John Freeman
John Gurdan
John Jekill
Humphrey Maurice
William Pocock
Charles Thorold
Michael Perry
Jacob Reynardson
John Dunston
John Maurice
Lancelot Breyney
William Baron
Thomas Hearty
William Richardson
John Stone
John Smith
Benjamin Eaton
Robert Master
John Hillierden
Anthony Wallenger
Paul Allstree
Joseph Mear
J. Martel
William Cowper
William Wyatford
Mark Proudfoot
John Kenrick
Samuel Clark
Simon Goodenough
Peter Wyatton
Edmond Pringle
Leonard Robinson
Thomas Lawrence
Thomas Shepherd
Julius Otter
Urban Hill
Philip Mithell
Thomas Hunt
James Dean
Thomas Overdall
Richard Hyde

A short Account of the Jews former Usage in England, from the First Year of King John, to the 18th. of King Edward the First; taken out of Mr. Pryn's second Part of a Demurrer to the Jews readmittance into England, (which Book may be seen in Lincolns-Inn-Library) compared to their Usage now.

THE Jews under all these Kings Reigns were but their most absolute Bondslaves and enquisite Villains in all respects. Their Names were enrolled Fol. 128, in the Exchequer, and confined to live only in such Places 129, 130, as were assigned them. They were translated from place 131, 132, to place at the King's Pleasure. They were both by Poll 135, 136, and Wholesale granted and sold to others like Bondslaves &c. and Villains, and Mortgaged to those that would Purchase them, or advance Money upon their assignment. They were always to wear a Badge on their Outermost Garments to distinguish them from Christians.

As for their real and personal Estates, they were wholly at the King's Pleasure; the King could Seize all their Lands, and sell or give them to whom he pleased. They could not sue for any Debt without the Kings Special Licence.

They were Taxed sometimes 1000, sometimes 2000, sometimes 6000 Marks or Pounds by the Year, and when they were taxed to the very Skin, and no more Money could be expected from them, then they Mortgaged and Sold their Persons and Estates.

They were exceeding Execrable and Detestable to the People in all Places where they resided, who frequently rose up in Tumultuous manner against them, burning their Houses, beating and killing their Persons, and pillaging their Goods.

But they not satisfying the Nation, their Effects were seized; and they were actually banished (being above 10000 Persons in the 28th. Year of the Reign of King Edward the First by publick Edit of Parliament. Anno Dom. 1290. They were banished France, 1307. Spain, 1492. Portugal, Naples and Sicily, 1539. And 'tis to be noted, that to this day they are not to be readmitted into any of those Kingdoms, nor in the said Act of the 18th. of Edward I. repealed here.

The long Parliament would not admit their coming into England again, but they came in after, and whether they paid for their entrance or not is a question.

All that is desired of them now (as far as I know) is, That they pay such Duties as the Law directs, and as all Christian Aliens do pay, and thereby keep the Balance of Trade upright, or on failure thereof, that the Laws which assign a Forfeiture may have their free course.

They were absent above 350 Years, and if their Usage here in former times be compared to what is expected of them now, certainly they can show no shadow of Reason why they should not willingly acquiesce.

I can yet meet only with one Objection, viz. *Objection.* The Jews are very Rich they drive a great Trade, and pay great Sums Yearly to His Majesty for the Duties of their Merchandizes, and should they be obliged to pay all the Law directs, they would leave the Nation, and consequently His Majesty would lose so much Yearly, as the Duties of their Merchandizes amounts to.

Answer. Consumption is the Life of Trade, and there are English Merchants enough, who have Stocks more than enough to drive on a full Trade, both at home and abroad; so that all the loss His Majesty can sustain is, the Duties of the Merchandizes the Jews consume themselves, which is very inconsiderable. For Example, A Jew imports a 100 Tuns of Wine, the English drink 95 Tuns thereof, and consequently pay the Duty on it in the Tavern price, and so proportionably in Shops for all their other Merchandizes, And in all it amounts only to this. His Majesty of the Trade of the Nation taken out of the Hands of the English Merchants and put into the Hands of Jews.

Now on the whole matter: Whether the *Noli prosequi* aforementioned, are illegal and ought to be declared Void; and whether Jews ought to be permitted a continuance of Trading in Your Majesty's Dominions, breaking the Laws relating to the Customs and Navigation, or be subjected to the Objections of them, as all other Merchants (both English and Foreigners) are, seem to be points fit only for the Determination of the Parliament.

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2000.
6000.

Vide B.
kew's Cron.
Fol. 100.